1835

JACKSON KEMPER

1985

An exhibition on Bishop Jackson Kemper and an Audio-Visual Production, "Stepping Westward: The Mission of Jackson Kemper's Followers," is featured on second floor of the Seminary Library.

During the Kemper Anniversary Celebration the Blue House, Nashotah Mission's first building, is open to visitors.

Acknowledgments.

Audio-Visual Production: John Finch, Television Production Supervisor, State University of New York at Albany; script by Nelson R. Burr, West Hartford, Ct.

Exhibition Loans: All Saints Cathedral, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Greta Jackson, Bishopstead, Delafield, Wisconsin; Jackson Kemper IV, Hawthorn, Illinois; State Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

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Typing: Arliss Reul, Nashotah House.

A
MISSIONARY CHURCH

A Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary
of the
Consecration of Jackson Kemper
First Missionary Bishop of the American Church

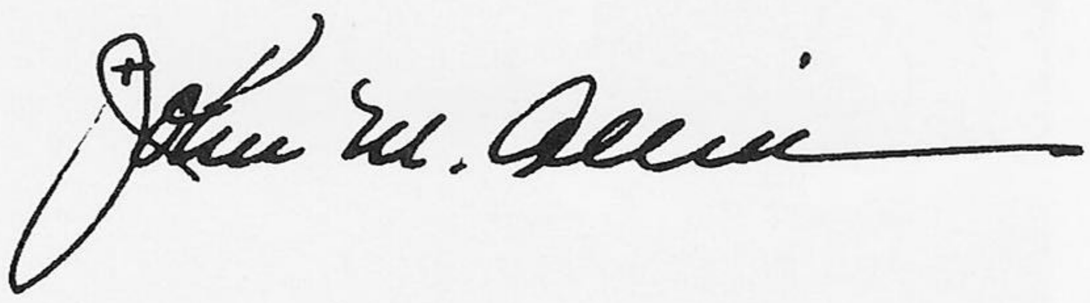
THE MOST REVEREND JOHN M. ALLIN
PRESIDING BISHOP, EPISCOPAL CHURCH

815 SECOND AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y 10017

August 29, 1985

I am happy to commend the forthcoming conference at Nashotah House to be held in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the consecration of Jackson Kemper as this Church's first missionary bishop. That event symbolized and solidified the dedication to mission by our Church, a dedication that has borne much fruit in the ensuing 150 years.

It is good to have the opportunity to reflect on where we have come and to assess the forms mission has taken and to study new ways to mission in the future. This conference will afford us a valuable opportunity to do this. It is my pleasure to share in it with my fellow Church members.



NASHOTAH HOUSE
A Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church
FOUNDED 1842
2777 MISSION ROAD
NASHOTAH, WISCONSIN 53058-9990
(414) 646-3371

26 September 1985

Dear Friend,

It is with great pleasure and joy that we have this opportunity to share with you a portion of the life of the Church which you discover on the grounds of this House. The vision of Jackson Kemper brought Nashotah into existence, and it is part of our work here to keep the saintly Bishop's missionary vision before the whole of the Church.

From the first Nashotah has been referred to as *The Mission* by its neighbors. We take pride in this and seek to be faithful to the name. Our primary mission is to provide as fine a theological education and spiritual formation as possible for the servants of our Lord.

Welcome among us! We pray your time here will be refreshing in mind and heart as together we renew the call to be *A Missionary Church.*

Yours in Christ,

Jack C Knight +

The Very Reverend Jack C. Knight
Dean

PROGRAM

THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER

3:00 p.m. Registration — Garth

5:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist — Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin
Preacher: The Right Reverend Roger J. White
Tenth Bishop of Milwaukee

6:30 p.m. Reception — Donaldson-Brady Library

7:15 p.m. Dinner — Bishop Kemper Hall

KEYNOTE
"Stepping Westward: A Heavenly Destiny"
Dr. Nelson R. Burr

FRIDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER

8:45 a.m. Morning Prayer — Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin

9:30 a.m. Address I — Bishop Kemper Hall
"The Domestic Missionary Movement in the Episcopal Church in the 19th Century," Dr. David L. Holmes, College of William and Mary

10:30 a.m. Address II — Bishop Kemper Hall
"Lay Workers in the Vineyard: Insights from the Domestic Committee of the Episcopal Church During Bishop Kemper's Episcopate," Dr. V. Nelle Bellamy, The Archives of the Episcopal Church

11:30 a.m. Address III — Bishop Kemper Hall
"Images of Mission in the Episcopal Church," The Reverend Dr. W. Roland Foster, The General Theological Seminary

12:30 p.m. Lunch — Breck Refectory

2:00 p.m.	Address IV "The Bishop as Chief Missionary," The Right Reverend Richard F. Grein, Seventh Bishop of Kansas	Bishop Kemper Hall
3:00 p.m.	Address V "Frontiers in Theology and Mission," The Reverend Dr. James E. Griffiss, Nashotah House	Bishop Kemper Hall
5:00 p.m.	The Holy Eucharist Preacher: The Right Reverend Arthur A. Vogel Fifth Bishop of West Missouri	Garth
6:30 p.m.	Reception	Lawn, Breck Hall
7:15 p.m.	Dinner	Bishop Kemper Hall

EPISCOPAL FORUM
"The Missionary Challenges Before Us Today"
Chair: Bishop Arthur A. Vogel

SATURDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

8:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin
9:30 a.m.	Address VI "Ecumenism and Mission: Together Not Apart," The Reverend Dr. J. Robert Wright, The General Theological Seminary	Bishop Kemper Hall
10:30 a.m.	Address VII "A Vision of Mission," The Most Reverend John Maury Allin, Twenty-Third Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church	Bishop Kemper Hall
12:00 p.m.	FESTIVAL EUCHARIST Preacher: The Very Reverend Jack C. Knight Sixteenth Dean and President of Nashotah House	Lawn, Red Chapel and Blue House
1:30 p.m.	Lunch	Lawn, Breck Hall

JACKSON KEMPER
Missionary Bishop

Few names in the annals of the American Church are more illustrious than that of Jackson Kemper. The story of his life is one of the Church's noblest tales of unwavering faith and spirited devotion in the service of Christ.

For twenty-four years as the Church's pioneer missionary bishop and another eleven years as diocesan bishop of Wisconsin, Jackson Kemper tirelessly labored on the western frontier of his day. Calling himself the "dray horse" of the Church, he traveled some 300,000 miles across the vast tracts of America's heartland (even making a trip once through the deep South), pulling the Church ever forward into new fields to spread the Gospel.

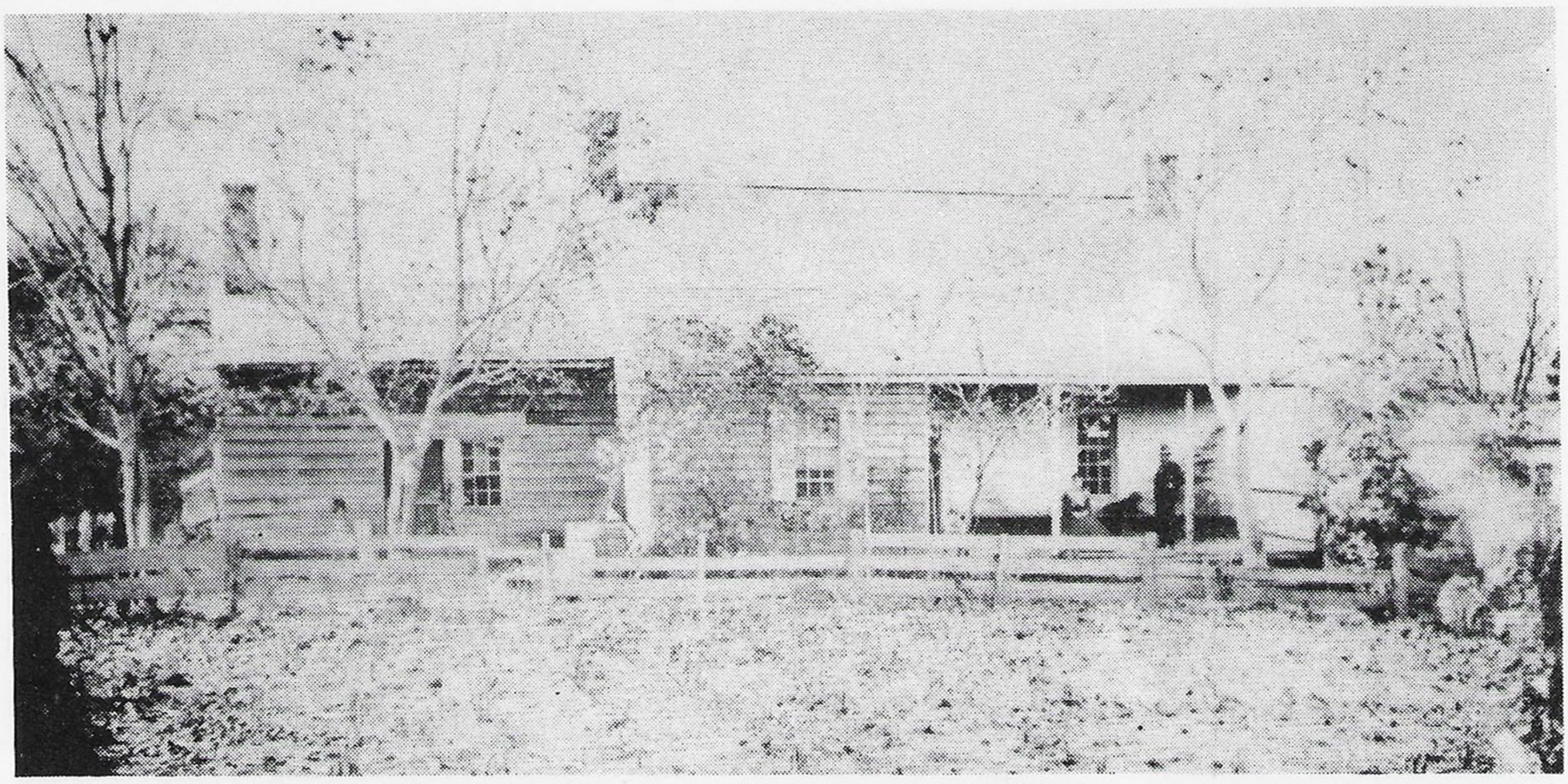
In all seasons, at every crossroad and in all manner of place, Kemper was to be found preaching, baptizing, confirming and planting missions. It was truly a heroic story of evangelism! And today twelve dioceses in seven states — Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Wisconsin — proudly and gratefully trace their own stories to the patient courage of this great missionary.

The consecration of Bishop Kemper on September 25, 1835, opened a new era in the life of the Episcopal Church, and spoke to a new and deeper understanding of ministry. That understanding was not only that the episcopate is first and foremost a missionary office, but that the Church's own calling in this land is to be a missionary Church, and all its members are missionaries by virtue of their baptism. The Church recognized that mission is not the special ministry of a voluntary few, but the sacred obligation of all.

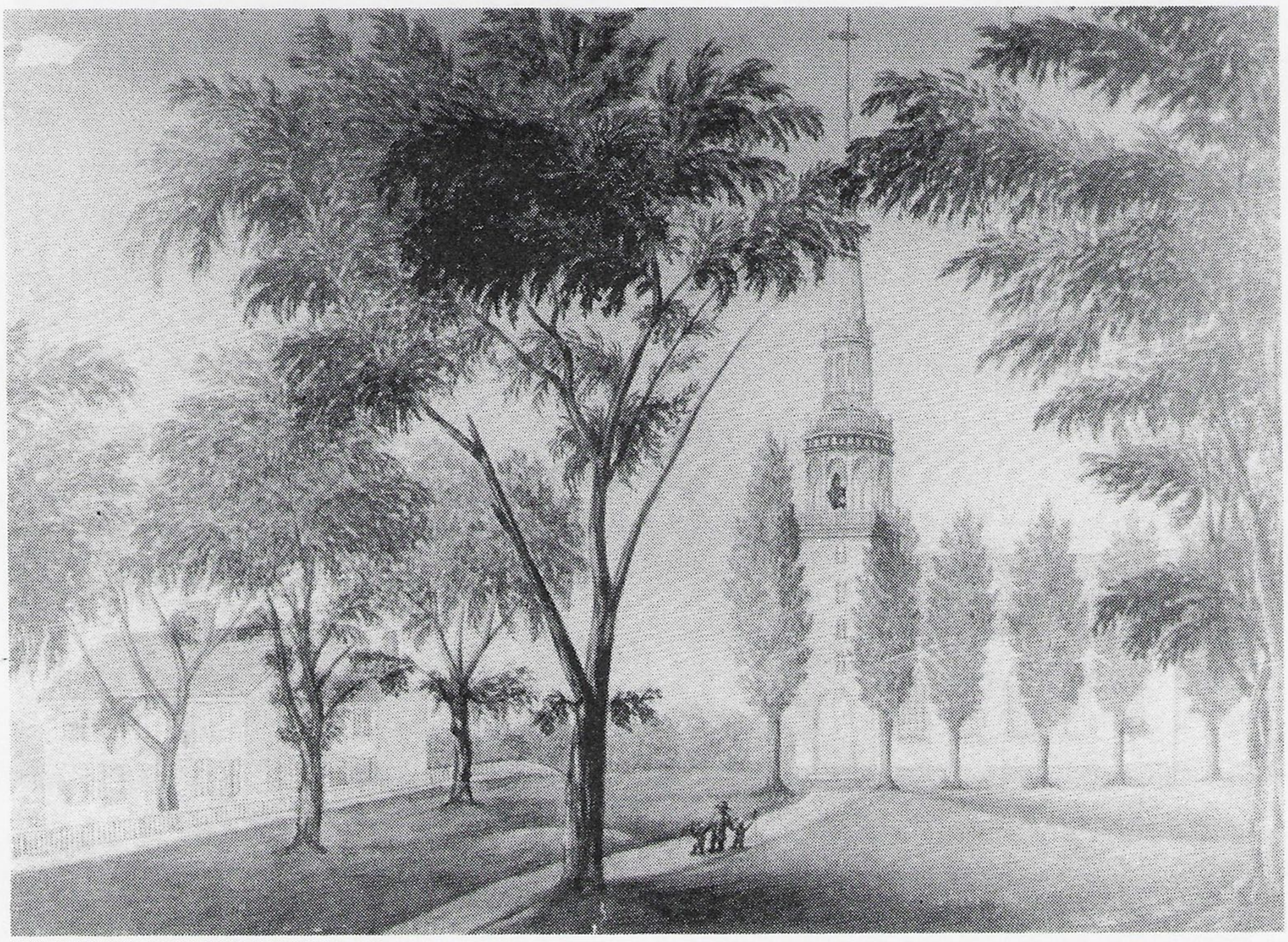
JACKSON KEMPER

And this is what is meant by a MISSIONARY BISHOP — a Bishop sent forth by the Church, not sought for of the Church — going before to organize the Church, not waiting till the Church has partially been organized, — a leader, not a follower, in the march of the Redeemer's conquering and triumphant Gospel — sent by the Church, even as the Church is sent by Christ.

— *Sermon Preached at the Consecration of Jackson Kemper by the Rt. Rev. George W. Doane, Bishop of New Jersey, September 25, 1835.*



Birthplace of Jackson Kemper, Pleasant Valley, New York. In this house, which was originally an inn, Kemper was born on December 24, 1789.



At the time of his election as Missionary Bishop, Jackson Kemper was rector of St. Paul's Church, Norwalk, Connecticut. He assumed pastoral charge of the parish in 1831 and the following year his wife died, leaving three young children. This watercolor by an unknown artist shows Kemper and two of his children on the parish walk.

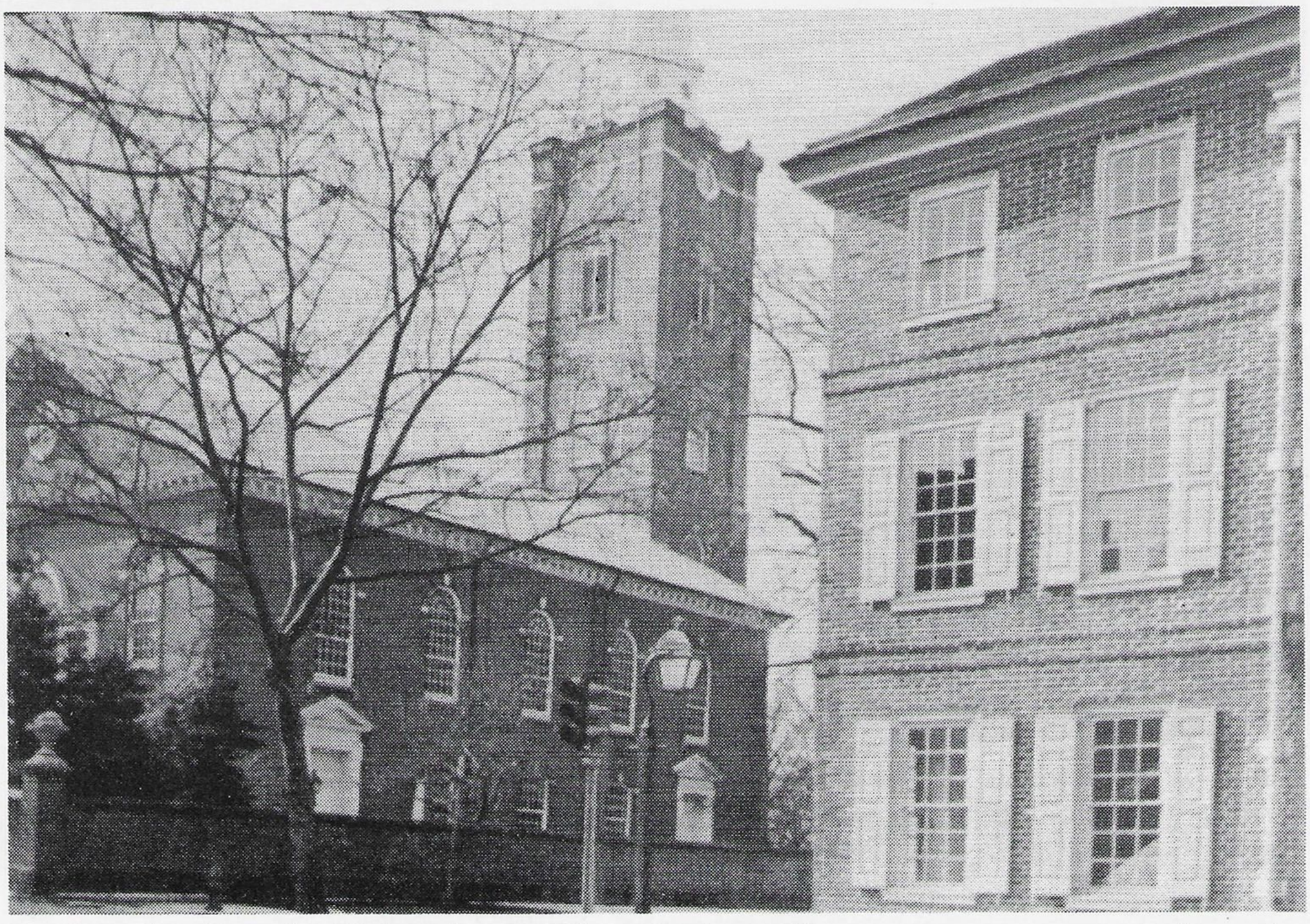
"You have heard of my election and of my acceptance. Could I do otherwise? Could I dare refuse an office so high, so responsible and so hazardous? I am aware of its perils and its toils, and the sacrifices it will require. But am I not called by our divine Master — ought I not to go with cheerfulness?"

— Letter of the Missionary Bishop-elect to a Friend, 1835.

The Rt. Rev. William White, Bishop of Pennsylvania and Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, acted as chief consecrator at the consecration of Jackson Kemper. It was the last consecration at which the venerable Patriarch of the American Church presided before his death in 1836.

"I glory in the prospect of receiving Consecration from those hands by which I was admitted more than 24 years since to the ministry."

— Kemper to Bishop White, 1835.



St. Peter's Church, Philadelphia. Here Jackson Kemper was consecrated as the Church's first Missionary Bishop. In 1811 he was ordained deacon in this church and served as assistant minister to the United Parishes of Christ Church, St. Peter's and St. James, Philadelphia, until moving to Connecticut in 1831.

"I have now experienced a little of western adventure, and really entered into it with much more spirit and enjoyment that I could have imagined."

— Bishop Kemper reporting on his missionary travels, 1838.

"The highest council of our Church erred not...when she openly declared that the field before her is the world; and that every baptized person is pledged to support the sacred cause of missions."

— Bishop Kemper, 1841.

The Blue House. In 1840 Bishop Kemper appealed to the students of General Seminary in New York City to join him in the missionary field, and the following year three young deacons came to his aid. They eventually settled on Upper Nashotah Lake, Wisconsin, and in 1842 built the Blue House to serve as the home for their new ministry. The building still stands on the grounds of Nashotah as a symbol of the Church's mission in the West.

"No one can imagine our losses and our dishonor for the want of missionaries but one who like myself has travelled over the far and almost boundless West for more than 6 years."

— Bishop Kemper, 1842.

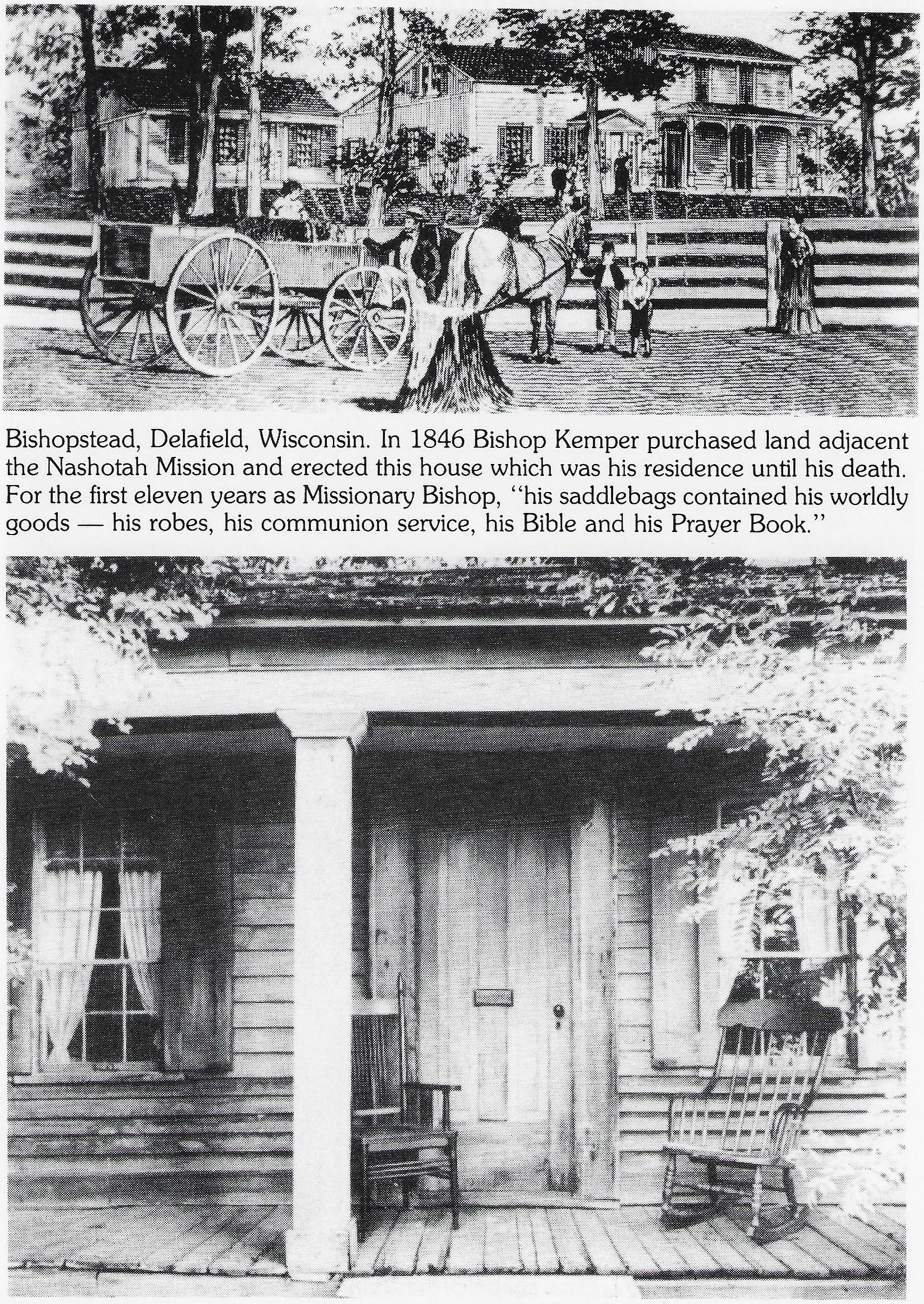
"Amidst many unexpected trials and discouragements, I perceive much cause to bless God and take courage; for I fully believe, that, with divine blessing, we are laying a deep and permanent foundation, on which the Church of the living God will be gloriously established."

— Bishop Kemper, 1846.

The Red Chapel. This is the original chapel of the Nashotah Mission. It was built in 1843, and during the winter of 1843-44 Bishop Kemper made his home in the chapel's basement.

"He calls his place the 'Episcopal Shanty,' it being much more like unto such a dwelling, as the name imports, than a 'Palace.' He is at home, however, but a small portion of the time; being absent at all seasons of the year, on visitations of his extensive charge."

— Banner of the Cross, 1854.



Bishopstead, Delafield, Wisconsin. In 1846 Bishop Kemper purchased land adjacent the Nashotah Mission and erected this house which was his residence until his death. For the first eleven years as Missionary Bishop, "his saddlebags contained his worldly goods — his robes, his communion service, his Bible and his Prayer Book."

Entrance to Bishop Kemper's Study. "More unpretentious than the humblest student's chamber...[it] was for several years the bishop's workroom and library."

"I now, with deep emotion, tender to the Church my resignation of the office of a Missionary Bishop...Blessed with health and cheered by the conviction of duty, I have been enabled to travel at all seasons through Indiana, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota, and partly through Kansas and Nebraska...As age advances I trust I have an increasing love for our Divine Master, and that Church for which he shed his most precious blood."

— Bishop Kemper, 1859.

On May 24, 1870, Jackson Kemper died at his home and was buried in the cemetery at Nashotah. The funeral of the veteran missionary was attended by six bishops, seventy priests, and over 2,000 people.

"His life furnishes a most important link, not only in the history of our American church but in the history of the Church Catholic of this age, as it develops its grand missionary work for the benefits of the world."

— Bishop Vail of Kansas, 1870.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

JOHN MAURY ALLIN is the twenty-third Presiding Bishop and first Primate of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America. During his twelve year tenure as chief pastor, the Church launched Venture in Mission, a massive capital funds campaign aimed at renewing mission and ministry at the national, diocesan and parochial levels. He has challenged Episcopalians to be a mission-minded people, bold in witness and service.

V. NELLE BELLAMY has been the Archivist of the Episcopal Church since 1959 and is adjunct Professor of Church History at the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, Texas. She is a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists and has served on various archival and church commissions. Her latest publication is "Participation of Women in the Public Life of the Church from Lambeth Conference 1867-1978," *Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church* (March 1982).

NELSON R. BURR, retired Librarian of Congress, is a director of the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church. Author of numerous works in the field of American religious history, his publication of a *A Critical Bibliography of Religion in America*, 2 vols. (1961), is considered a landmark in American studies. He has lately completed *New Eden and New Babylon: Religious Thoughts of American Authors, A Bibliography.*

W. ROLAND FOSTER is Professor of American Church History and Missiology at The General Theological Seminary, New York City, where he served as Dean from 1973 to 1978. He has published major works on the Scottish Reformation and is the author of *The Role of the Presiding Bishop* (1982). He is Vice President of the Historical Society of the Episcopal Church and a member of the Standing Commission on World Mission of the General Convention.

RICHARD F. GREIN, sometime Professor of Pastoral Theology at Nashotah House, was consecrated Bishop of Kansas in 1981. He is a member of the House of Bishops Committee on Pastoral Development, the General Board of Examining Chaplains, and a Trustee of the National Center for the Diaconate. He is co-author of *Anglican Theology and Pastoral Care* (1985).

JAMES E. GRIFFISS is William Adams Professor of Philosophical and Systematic Theology at Nashotah House. He is a member of the Theological Committee of the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations of the General Convention. He is author of *Church, Ministry, and Unity: A Divine Commission* (1983), and has lately edited and co-authored *Anglican Theology and Pastoral Care* (1985).

DAVID L. HOLMES, Assistant Professor of Religion at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, is a member of the editorial board of the *Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church.* He has published widely in the field of American church history and is author of *The Episcopalians,* a forthcoming volume in the new American Denomination Series.

JACK C. KNIGHT became the sixteenth Dean and President of Nashotah House on July 1, 1985. He has been involved in mission throughout his ministry, having served as Canon Missioner in the dioceses of Colorado and Louisiana. He received the Bishop's Cross for Outstanding Service in the Diocese of Colorado in recognition of his work as chairman of the Committee on Mission Strategy and chairman of Venture in Mission.

ARTHUR A. VOGEL is Bishop of West Missouri. He was formerly Professor of Theology and Sub-Dean of Nashotah House. In 1969 he was appointed to the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and is a member of ARCIC-II. He is the author of nine books, and the recent editor and co-author of *Theology in Anglicanism* (1984).

ROGER J. WHITE is the tenth Bishop of Milwaukee in succession to Jackson Kemper. His special interests are in the area of Ministry Development, Mission Strategy, Parochial Renewal and Development, and Ministry to Urban Areas. He is a contributor to *Realities and Visions: The Church's Mission Today* (1976).

J. ROBERT WRIGHT is St. Mark's Church in the Bowerie Professor of Ecclesiastical History at The General Theological Seminary, New York City. He is a member of the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches, the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission. He has written extensively in the field of ecumenism, and is editor and co-author of *A Communion of Communions: One Eucharistic Fellowship* (1979).

BISHOPS IN ATTENDANCE

The Most Reverend John Maury Allin
The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

The Right Reverend Craig B. Anderson
The Bishop of South Dakota

The Right Reverend Robert M. Anderson
The Bishop of Minnesota

The Right Reverend Stanley H. Atkins
The Bishop of Eau Claire, Retired

Brother John Charles, S.S.F.
Sometime Bishop of Polynesia

The Right Reverend Alex D. Dickson
The Bishop of West Tennessee

The Right Reverend Charles T. Gaskell
The Bishop of Milwaukee, Retired

The Right Reverend Richard F. Grein
The Bishop of Kansas

The Right Reverend William A. Jones, Jr.
The Bishop of Missouri

The Right Reverend James W. Montgomery
The Bishop of Chicago

The Right Reverend Donald J. Parsons
The Bishop of Quincy

The Right Reverend David B. Reed
The Bishop of Kentucky

The Right Reverend William C.R. Sheridan
The Bishop of Northern Indiana

The Right Reverend William L. Stevens
The Bishop of Fond du Lac

The Right Reverend Robert E. Terwilliger
The Bishop Suffragan of Dallas

The Right Reverend Arthur A. Vogel
The Bishop of West Missouri

The Right Reverend William C. Wantland
The Bishop of Eau Claire

The Right Reverend James D. Warner
The Bishop of Nebraska

The Right Reverend Roger J. White
The Bishop of Milwaukee

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The General Theological Seminary	New York, New York

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